

What is claimed is:

1. A method for utilizing an intermediary resident on a back-end system to transfer data from a back-end resource on the back-end system to a client via network-based client-accessible systems containing web servers,
5 comprising the steps of:

receiving a request from the client at the intermediary;

presenting the request to a web-server, which the web-server forwards to the back-end system in the form of a service request;

- receiving a formatted web-page from the web-server with data references
10 provided by the intermediary via the back-end system; and

replacing the data references with the requested data and sending the page to the client.

2. A method as set forth in claim 1, where the step of receiving a
15 service request from a client includes the step of receiving at least one client value, storing the client value on the back-end system for later retrieval, and replacing the data in the service request with reference values that identify the stored values.

3. A method as set forth in claim 1, further including the step of initially establishing a secure connection between the client and the intermediary.

5 4. A method as set forth in claim 1, where the step of receiving a request from the client comprises the step of authenticating the client.

5. A method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the step of logging data transactions at the intermediary.

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6. A method for utilizing an intermediary resident on a back-end system to send a request to transfer data from a back-end resource on the back-end system to a client via network-based client-accessible systems containing web servers, comprising the steps of:

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receiving a request from the client at the intermediary; and
presenting the request to a web-server, which the web-server forwards to the back-end system in the form of a service request.

7. A method as set forth in claim 6, further comprising the step of logging data transactions at the intermediary.

8. A method for utilizing an intermediary resident on a back-end system to transfer data from a back-end resource on the back-end system to a client via network-based client-accessible systems containing web servers, comprising the steps of:

receiving a formatted web-page from the web-server with data references provided by the intermediary via the back-end system; and

10 replacing the data references with the requested data and sending the page to the client.

9. A method as set forth in claim 8, further comprising the step of logging data transactions at the intermediary.

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10. A method for utilizing an intermediary resident on a back-end system to transfer data from a client to a back-end resource on the back-end

system via network-based client-accessible systems containing web servers,
comprising the steps of:

receiving a request and data from the client at the intermediary;

storing the data on the back-end system and inserting at least one data

5 reference in the request;

presenting the request to a web-server, which the web-server forwards
to the back-end system in the form of a service request; and

replacing the data references with the client data and sending the service
request to the back-end resource.

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11. A method as set forth in claim 10, further including the step of
initially establishing a secure connection between the client and the
intermediary.

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12. A method as set forth in claim 10, where the step of receiving a
request from the client comprises the step of authenticating the client.

13. A method as set forth in claim 10, further comprising the step of logging data transactions at the intermediary.

14. A method for utilizing an intermediary resident on a back-end
5 system to send a request to transfer data from a back-end resource on the back-end system to a client via network-based client-accessible systems containing web servers, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request and at least one client value from the client at the intermediary;

10 storing the client value on the back-end system for later retrieval;

replacing the client value in the request with at least one reference value that identifies the stored values; and

presenting the request to a web-server, which the web-server forwards to the back-end system in the form of a service request.

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15. A method as set forth in claim 14, further comprising the step of logging data transactions at the intermediary.